taken by the Govt, the magnitude of outstanding statutory dues to workers has registered a decline over time.

Power supply in Bihar

*125. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the MINISTER OF POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated annual production and demand of power in the State of Bihar during 1995-96 to 2000 AD;

(b) the estimated increase in the shortage of power supply in the State during the aforesaid period; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) the programme for the Ninth Plan covering a period from 1997-98 to 200*1-02 has yet not been finalised. However, actual power supply position for 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 (upto October, 1997) in respect of Bihar is as follows:—

	Energy (MUs)			Pca k (MW)		
	Req uirement	Availability	% shortage	Demand	Md	%shortage
1995-96	9570	6692	30.1	1690	925	45.3
1996-97	9625	6981	27.5	1850	955	48.4
1997-98 up to Oct., 97	5455	4207	22.9	1790	1007	43.7

The energy and peak requirement as projected in the 15th Electric Power Survey for 1998-99 and 1999-2000 for Bihar is as follows:—

	Energy (MUs)	Peak (MW)
1998-99	10019	1906
1999-2000	10765	2048

To improve the power supply position in Bihar and Eastern Region, Maithon Right Bank Thermal Power Station (1000 MW) is proposed to be taken up for execution during the Ninth Plan by the DVC. The documents for RFQ for Nabinagar Mega Project (1000 MW) in Bihar have been issued. Unit 3 of Mejia TPS (210 MW) by DVC is targetted to be commissioned during 1997-98. Government also proposes to strengthen and augment the transmission network of Power Grid for evacuation of power from Central Stations. Tariff rationalisation by the State Government and restructuring of State Electricity Board would help the state to improve the financial position of the Board and enable it to make necessary investments in sanctioned generation schemes as well as invest in upgrading and modernising the transmission and distribution network besides encouraging private promoters to undertake investments in the power sector in Bihar.

Recovery of PFC Loan from State Electricity Boards

*126. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of outstanding loans of Power Finance Corporation to State Electricity Boards as per latest review undertaken, State-wise;

(b) whether the position has become critical;